



St John's Primary School  
Wallingford  
NEWSLETTER

September 2018

Issue 2

20.9.18

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those of you who joined us for the PTFA welcome back tea after school on Friday. We hope you managed to find out some more about the PTFA plans for the year and how you can support the school. If you weren't able to join us, the noticeboard with information about the plans for the year and upcoming events is in the entrance hall – do pop in and have a look. Our big fundraising focus for the year is on improving the Infant playground.

Children are all enjoying their new topics and have settled in to the new routines well. You will have received your class letters with the topic plan attached. This time we have also included information on how the topics fit with the themes of the vision. Our vision themes underpin the curriculum and the ethos of the school. We hope that you find this useful. I've included more information in this newsletter on each of the themes.

This year we are working with School Health UK to improve our lunchtimes. Our aim is to ensure a pleasant dining environment, reduce queuing time, reduce noise and mess and encourage healthy eating. We have started work on this with a new set up of tables in the hall. Children are now seated in smaller, more sociable groups, with cutlery and water out on the table for them. This means that they do not get up and around as much. They are also waiting for others on their table to get their meals before starting, and wait for the majority of the table to finish, before leaving the hall. It has been a change but is going well so far and children have reported that are enjoying it.

This week we will be holding our Eco and School Council elections. Two representatives from each class from years 2 to 6 will be elected by their classmates. If your child is interested in standing for election, please help them to prepare a short speech for their class. They need to be prepared to attend a meeting before school once a fortnight. We are looking forward to working with them this year and gathering their views and ideas!

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding a curriculum information evening for parents, followed by a short PTFA AGM meeting. We will be sending further details shortly. Please do come along if you can – it would be lovely to see lots of you there.

Kind regards,

Nicky Hughes



## Term Dates 2018-2019

Term 1 Thursday 06/09/18 – Friday 19/10/18

Term 2 Monday 29/10/18 – Friday 21/12/18

Term 3 Tuesday 08/01/19 – Friday 15/02/19

Term 4 Monday 25/02/19 – Friday 05/04/19

Term 5 Tuesday 23/04/19 – Friday 24/05/19

Term 6 Monday 03/06/19 – Tuesday 23/07/19

## Inset Days 2018-2019

Tuesday 04/09/2018

Wednesday 05/09/2018

Monday 12/11/2018

Monday 07/01/2019

Wednesday 24/07/2019



## Message from the office

We will soon be updating student data and our school permissions. Please check these carefully when you receive them and return them asap so that we know our database reflects your current details and wishes. Please also remember to update us with any changes of address or contact details going forward.

## School Dates for Autumn Term

Mon 24th Sept - 6:30pm Yenworthy meeting for Y6 parents

Fri 12th Oct - Harvest Festival

Thurs 18th Oct - Art Exhibition afternoon

**\*\* w/c 22 October - HALF TERM \*\***

Mon 29th Oct - Y6 Residential all week

w/c Mon 12th Nov - Parent Teacher Interviews

Weds 14th Nov - Flu immunisations FS - Y5

Thurs 6th Dec - KS2 Theatre Trip

Thurs 13th Dec - KS1 Theatre Trip

Mon 10th and Tues 11th Dec - Infant performance



### **Wallingford School Children's Choir**

*Last week professional singer and vocal coach Marion Nicolosi came into school to kick start our singing assemblies. She taught us all about our voices being a muscle that we need to work and strengthen to improve. We had lots of fun singing 'Can't Stop the Feeling' in different parts and enjoyed a variety of warm up exercises and games. Marion is starting a children's choir on a Thursday afternoon at Wallingford School. Further information about the choir can be found in the attached flyer.*



### **School Vacancy**

We are currently advertising for a school vacancy for a clerk to the governors. If you are interested in applying or know someone who might be interested then please take a look at the **attached job description**.



**WALLINGFORD  
FAMILY CENTRE**

- REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1173241 -

The Wallingford Family centre is a small local charity that provides open access services to children under 5 years old and their parents/carers.

Attached to this newsletter we have a weekly timetable of sessions and activities that aim to promote a child's development and early learning as well as to support positive relationships.



## St John's School Vision

As part of our work on curriculum last year, staff and governors reviewed the themes of our vision which underpin our curriculum planning. Here is some more information on how we are covering the themes through our curriculum provision:

### Critical thinking and problem solving

Maths Mastery  
Investigative Science  
Reading - inference and deduction  
Enterprise projects  
Critical thinking in History and Geography  
Real life problems

### Physical and mental well-being

PE curriculum, tournaments  
Family Links - emotional well-being programme  
Growth mindset  
Purple learning  
Better Lunchtime's Award  
Residentials  
Forest School  
PHSE - Life Bus, Junior Citizen

### Local and Global Citizenship

Focus weeks and days -  
Walk to School Week, Safer Internet Day  
School and Eco Council  
Charity events  
Topics e.g. Fairtrade covered through Chocoholics  
Global Goals focus

### Communication and Social Skills

Talk partners and talk for learning  
Storytelling  
Oracy work  
Playground leaders  
Forest School  
Family Links programme  
Collaborative projects/ lessons

### Creativity and Innovation

Art Weeks  
Drama and productions  
ICT - films/animation  
Real life experiences and enterprise projects  
Forest School

### Key Academic Skills

Maths mastery  
Reading for pleasure - extended school day to support  
Writing for a purpose  
Specific skills teaching in all subjects  
Primary Quality Science Mark